

REMARKS

The undersigned wishes to thank Examiner Shafer for the courtesy extended during the telephone conversation on March 20, 2006, during which further changes to the claims to distinguish the invention from the U.S. Patent 4,394,066 to Sharp were discussed. The claim amendments appearing above incorporate these further changes.

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6-11, 13-15, and 18-22 remain in the application, while claims 2, 5, 12, 16, and 17 are canceled. Claims 3, 4, 6-10, and 20, which are withdrawn from consideration, are retained in the application, since they depend on claims which should be allowable.

Claims 13-15, 18, 21, and 22 are amended above in the manner suggested by the Examiner in section 5 on page 3 of the Office Action and should now be in proper form.

Claim 11 now defines the carrying device as having a substantially V-shape configuration as shown, for example, in Figures 2 and 4, and the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, is overcome.

Independent claims 1 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by the Sharp patent mentioned above. Reconsideration is requested. As was tentatively agreed during the telephone conversation mentioned above, the rear view mirror forming the subject matter of the Sharp patent does not include supporting arms, each of which has a collar penetrating one of several separate openings in a housing resting in the area of each opening on a shoulder bounding the collar, and in which carrying elements as specified are disposed

behind a mirror glass plate as both claim 1 and claim 11 particularly define. Neither claim 1 nor claim 11 is anticipated by the Sharp patent disclosure, and it is respectfully submitted that both claim 1 and claim 11 are patentable. The rest of the claims remaining in this application, including claims 3, 4, 6-10, and 20, which are withdrawn from consideration, are dependent claims and are considered patentable as well.

If there are any questions regarding this Reply or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an extension of time sufficient to effect a timely response. Please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #028987.52902US).

Respectfully submitted,

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